REMARKS

Status of the Application

Prior to entry of this amendment, claims 1-15 are examined and pending in the application. After entry of this amendment, claims 1-17 are all the claims pending in the application.

Amendments to the Claims

Applicant has amended claims 3 and 6 to claim aspects of the invention with more particularity. Applicant has added claims 16 and 17 to claim aspects of the invention with more particularity. Applicant submits that the amendments are supported throughout the specification, and do not constitute new matter.

Claim Rejections: 35 U.S.C. § 102 Iwata (Office Action, page 2)

Claims 1-10 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by JP Publication No JP11192761 to Iwata (hereinafter "Iwata").

Applicant traverses as the reference does not teach or disclose all the elements of the claims.

According to the Abstract, Iwata is directed to a printer and recording medium that avoids a non-printed margin when a full-bleed (extending to the edge of a page) image is printed on skewed paper. Full-bleed paper uses a perforated area that is printed on and then detached (see Fig. 1). The perforated area for full-bleed printing is detected by a printer and then the printer enlarges the input image by 1 to 10% to extend past the perforations. Because of the overprinting of the image outside the perforated area, when the resulting printed page is trimmed at the perforations, no unprinted margin appears and the printed image extends to the

edge of the cut page, even if the paper was slightly skewed. By automating the resizing within the printer itself, the complexity of printing is reduced (paragraph 3).

Claim 1

Independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, "a processing interruption section that interrupts a series of processing of creating the paper image and outputting the created paper image to the paper, which are executed by the paper image creating section and the output processing section, respectively, in the event that the page disposed on the layout juts out the imaginary page frame."

The Examiner asserts that paragraph 21 and Fig. 6 of Iwata disclose this recited feature (Office Action, page 3).

Paragraph 21 of Iwata describes detecting, by a sensor, whether the paper is fixed form sized or full-bleed paper. If the paper is fixed form sized, an input image is printed without additional processing by the printer onto the fixed form sized paper.

If a sensor detects that the paper is full-bleed, the input image is expanded by 1 to 10% (paragraph 23) and then printed onto the full-bleed paper. By trimming the full-bleed paper at the perforations, the image extends to the edge of the resulting printed page, even if the full-bleed paper was slightly skewed in the printer (paragraph 23).

Drawing 3 shows the steps of processing of Iwata. If the *paper* detected is full-bleed (step 10), an expanded image is created (step 11) (see paragraph 21).

Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's conclusion of "in the event that the fixed form size expands into the bleeding area, the process interrupts in order to expand and create the printing area, **See Paragraph 0021**, to prevent the paper image from jutting out if

printed, **See Figure 6**)" is not in accordance with the disclosure of Iwata.

Iwata discusses two separate types of paper: fixed-form and full-bleed. Itawa expands the image past the perforations to avoid blank margins. Assuming, *arguendo*, that Itawa discloses an imaginary page frame, Itawa does not prevent paper image from jutting out if printed, the printed image of Itawa is intended and required to expand past the perforations, as this is the purpose and function of Itawa.

Additionally, assuming, *arguendo*, that drawing 3 of Iwata discloses an interruption, it is the detection of the paper type in Iwata that causes the interruption, independent of an input image or any aspect of the input image. No page frame or layout is considered by Iwata, merely if the paper *loaded into the printer* is perforated (Figs. 1 and 3). Alternatively, a switch may be used to select the input paper rather than a sensor (paragraph 24).

Therefore, in Iwata there is no disclosure or teaching of a processing interruption section that interrupts a series of processing of creating the paper image and outputting the created paper image to the paper, which are executed by the paper image creating section and the output processing section, respectively, in the event that the page disposed on the layout juts out the imaginary page frame, as recited by the claim.

As the reference does not teach or disclose all the elements of the claim, claim 1 is therefore patentable over the reference.

Dependent claims 2, 7, and 9 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1.

Claim 3

Amended Independent claim 3 recites, *inter alia*, "a page size adjusting section that

performs a size adjustment to coincide the page disposed on the layout with an imaginary page frame which is larger than the page frame on the layout in the event that the page disposed on the layout juts out the imaginary page frame".

As discussed above regarding claim 1, Iwata, to the extent any image resizing occurs, does so in response to a detected paper loaded into the printer or a setting of a switch, independent of any aspect, quality, or orientation of the input image.

Therefore in Iwata there is no a page size adjusting section that performs a size adjustment to coincide the page disposed on the layout with an imaginary page frame which is larger than the page frame on the layout in the event that the page disposed on the layout juts out the imaginary page frame, as recited in the claim. As the reference does not teach or disclose all the elements of the claim, claim 3 is therefore patentable over the reference for at least this reason.

Dependent claims 4, 8, and 10 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency on independent claim 3.

Claim 5

Independent claim 5 recites a similar feature to claim 1, a "processing interruption section for interrupting a series of processing of creating the paper image and outputting the created paper image to the paper, which are executed by the paper image creating section and the output processing section, respectively, in the event that the page disposed on the layout juts out the imaginary page frame".

As discussed above with regard to claim 1, Iwata fails to teach or disclose this feature, and therefore claim 5 is patentable over the reference for at least this reason.

Claim 6

Amended Independent claim 6 recites a similar feature to claim 3, "a page size adjusting section that performs a size adjustment to coincide the page disposed on the layout with an imaginary page frame which is larger than the page frame on the layout in the event that the page disposed on the layout juts out the imaginary page frame".

As discussed above with regard to claim 1, Iwata fails to teach or disclose this feature and therefore claim 6 is patentable over the reference for at least this reason.

Claim Rejection: 35 U.S.C. § 103 ~ Iwata (Office Action, page 5)

Claim 15 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Iwata.

Applicant respectfully traverses. Claim 15 depends from claim 1 which is shown above to be patentable over Iwata, and therefore claim 15 is patentable over Iwata.

Applicant additionally submits that the proposed modification by the Examiner to the reference would render the reference unsatisfactory for its intended purpose (see MPEP § 2143.01) and therefore the references cannot be combined.

The purpose of Iwata is to automatically expand an input image if full-bleed paper is loaded into a printer (Abstract). The interruption by Iwata posited by the Examiner is the detection of fixed sized paper or full-bleed paper (Office Action, page 3). If, as the Examiner contends, interruption and a resulting non-printing occurs in Iwata if full-bleed paper is loaded (Office Action, page 3), this would result in Iwata *not printing images if full-bleed paper is loaded.*

The Examiner's proposed modification would render the reference unsuitable for its

intended purpose, as the purpose of Iwata is to automatically (or in response to a switch) resize input images upon detection of full-bleed paper (Problem to be Solved by the Invention), *and then print* the resized image onto full-bleed paper. As the modification would render the reference unsuitable for its intended purpose, the references cannot be combined, as there is no suggestion or motivation to combine the references. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections: 35 U.S.C. § 103 ~ Iwata + Matsuoka (Office Action, page 5)

Claims 11-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Iwata in view of US Patent No. 5,337,668 to Matsuoka (hereinafter "Matsuoka").

Applicant respectfully traverses. Claims 11-13 depend from claim 1 that is shown above to be patentable over Iwata, and Matsuoka does not cure the deficiencies of Iwata; therefore claims 11-13 are patentable over the references, alone or in combination.

Applicant additionally submits that the proposed combination by the Examiner to the references impermissibly changes the principle of operation of Iwata (see MPEP § 2143.01), and therefore the references cannot be combined.

As disclosed in the Abstract, Matsuoka displays a plurality of register mark candidate positions on a computer display. An operator then selects one of the sets of registration marks.

Iwata, as discussed above, detects the loading of perforated pages and expands an image past the perforations to have a printed image extend to the edges of the perforated area.

If the references are combined as suggested by the Examiner, Iwata would not use perforated pages and instead use registration marks for cutting a page: the plurality of

registration marks offered by Matsuoka. In Iwata, however, the determination of whether to expand an image occurs automatically by detection of the type of loaded paper. Iwata would no longer be able to detect perforated or non-perforated paper, as only one type of paper would be loaded into the printer and selected registration marks would then be used to determine if the printed image expands past a registration mark.

Iwata would therefore not expand an image in response to detected type of loaded paper but *instead in response to a user selected registration mark.* As this proposed combination changes the principle of operation of one of the references, then the teachings of the references are not sufficient to render the claims *prima facie* obvious. Applicant therefore requests that the rejections be withdrawn.

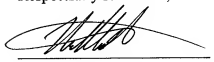
Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned Attorney at the telephone number listed below.

This Amendment is being filed via the USPTO Electronic Filing System (EFS). Applicant herewith petitions the Director of the USPTO to extend the time for reply to the above-identified Office Action for an appropriate length of time if necessary. Any fee due under 37 U.S.C. § 1.17(a) is being paid via the USPTO Electronic Filing System (EFS). The USPTO is also directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any

overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Nathan Milakovich
Registration No. 60,376

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: June 18, 2009